THE ORDER FOR READER VESPERS
WHEN WE ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND CHURCH

SATURDAY JUNE 6, 2020


*THE SERVICE TAKES PLACE IN FRONT OF OUR ICON CORNER*

EVERYONE: O, God cleanse me a sinner and have mercy on me! (3x)

READER: Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

READER: Amen. Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3 times) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy Name’s sake.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

EVERYONE: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

READER: Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

READER: Amen. Lord have mercy (12x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Come, let us worship God, Our King! Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, Our King and our God! Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God! Come, Let us worship and fall down before Him!
THE PSALM OF CREATION (Psalm 104/103 LXX)

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, thou art very great! Thou art clothed with honor and majesty, who covers thyself with light as with a garment, who hast stretched out the heavens like a tent, who hast laid the beams of thy chambers on the waters, who makes the clouds thy chariot, who rides on the wings of the wind, who makes the winds thy messengers, fire and flame thy ministers. Thou didst set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be shaken. Thou didst cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At thy rebuke they fled; at the sound of thy thunder they took to flight.

The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place which thou didst appoint for them. Thou didst set a bound which they should not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth. Thou makest springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild asses quench their thirst. By them the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

From thy lofty abode thou waterest the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy work. Thou dost cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and fodder for the animals that serve man, That he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart. The trees of the LORD are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon which he planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees. The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the badgers.

Thou hast made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting. Thou makest darkness, and it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep forth. The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. When the sun rises, they get them away and lie down in their dens. Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening.

O LORD, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all; the earth is full of thy creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, which teems with things innumerable, living things both small and great. There go the ships, and Leviathan which thou didst form to sport in it. These all look to thee, to give them their food in due season. When thou givest to them, they gather it up; when thou openest thy hand, they are filled with good things. When thou hidest thy face, they are dismayed; when thou takest away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When thou sendest forth thy Spirit, they are created; and thou renewest the face of the earth.

May the glory of the LORD endure for ever, may the LORD rejoice in his works, who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke! I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD. Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the LORD, O my soul! The sun knows its time for setting. Thou makest darkness and it is night. O Lord how manifold are thy works, in wisdom hast thou made them all!
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

**THE GREAT LITANY is not said in the absence of a Priest or Deacon.**

The reader continues:

**READER:** Lord have mercy (12x)

Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

**EVERYONE:** Amen. Followed by: ‘Blessed is the Man…’

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous but the way of the wicked will perish. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice in Him with trembling. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Blessed are all who take refuge in Him. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Arise, O Lord, save me O my God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Salvation belongs to The Lord. Thy blessing be upon Thy people. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

---

**THE LITTLE LITANY is not said in the absence of a Priest or Deacon. The reader continues:**

**READER:** Lord have mercy (3x)
Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

**CHOIR:** Amen. Followed by: ‘‘Lord, I call upon Thee…’’ (Tone 1)

"Lord I Call..."  Tone 1

**Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!  Hear me, O Lord!  Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me! Receive the voice of my prayer, when I call upon Thee!  Hear me, O Lord!**

Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice!  Hear me, O Lord!
Reader: (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!

We celebrate the feast of Pentecost and the coming of the Spirit, the appointed day of the promise, the fulfillment of hope.
How majestic and great is the mystery! Therefore we cry aloud to you: // “Glory to Thee, O Lord and Creator of all!”

Reader: (9) The righteous will surround me; for Thou will deal bountifully with me.

We celebrate the feast of Pentecost and the coming of the Spirit, the appointed day of the promise, the fulfillment of hope.
How majestic and great is the mystery! Therefore we cry aloud to you: // “Glory to Thee, O Lord and Creator of all!”

Reader: (8) Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

Thou hast renewed Thy Disciples, O Christ, by giving them the gift of foreign tongues, that through them they might preach of Thee, the immortal Word and God. // Who give great mercy to our souls.

Reader: (7) Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

The Holy Spirit provides all things: He pours forth prophecies, He leads priests to perfection, He teaches unschooled people wisdom, He reveals fishermen as theologians, He confirms the Church. // O Comforter, one in essence and enthroned with the Father and the Son, glory to Thee!

Reader: (6) If Thou, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

Tone 2

We have seen the True Light. We have received the heavenly Spirit.
We have found the true faith, worshipping the undivided Trinity. // Who has saved us.

Reader: (5) For Thy name's sake I have waited for Thee, O Lord, my soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.
We have seen the True Light. We have received the heavenly Spirit. We have found the true faith, worshipping the undivided Trinity.// Who has saved us.

Reader: (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope on the Lord!

In the Prophets, O our Savior, Thou didst proclaim to us the way of salvation. In the Apostles the grace of Thy Spirit shone forth. From the beginning and ever after, Thou art God,// our God before the ages.

Reader: (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

In Thy courts I will praise Thee, the Savior of the world. On bended knee I will worship Thy invincible might. In the evening, in the morning, and at noontime –// at all times I will bless Thee, O Lord.

Reader: (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

In Thy courts, O Lord, we faithful bend the knees of soul and body; with songs we proclaim Thee, eternal Father and co-eternal Son, and Thou, all-holy and co-eternal Spirit,// Who sanctify and enlighten our souls.

Reader: (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Let us praise in song the consubstantial Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.// For this was the preaching of all the Prophets, Apostles, and Martyrs.

Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Come, O people, let us worship the Godhead in three persons: the Son in the Father, with the Holy Spirit. For the Father timelessly begot the Son, co-eternal and co-enthroned with Him; and the Holy Spirit was in the Father and is glorified with the Son. We worship one Power, one Essence, one Godhead, and we say: “Holy God, Thou didst create all things through Thy Son with the cooperation of the Holy Spirit. Holy Mighty, through Thee we know the Father; through Thee the Holy Spirit came to dwell in the world. Holy Immortal, Comforting Spirit, Thou does proceed from the Father and rest in the Son.// O Holy Trinity, glory to Thee!”
CHOIR: O Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, Father heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ. Now that we have come to the setting of the sun, and behold the light of evening, we praise Father, Son and Holy Spirit God. For meet it is at all times to worship Thee with voices of praise, O Son of God and Giver of life; therefore all the world glorifies Thee.

THE EVENING PROKEIMENON

READER: The evening prokeimenon is in the sixth tone: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: The Lord is robed, He is girded with strength!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: The Lord is King!

CHOIR: He is robed in Majesty!

THE FEAST OF HOLY PENTECOST

THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS (#1)

Priest: Wisdom!
Reader: The Reading is from The Book of Numbers.
Priest: Let us Attend!

So the LORD said to Moses: “Gather to Me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tabernacle of meeting, that they may stand there with you.

Then I will come down and talk with you there. I will take of the Spirit that is upon you and will put the same upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone.

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD, and he gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tabernacle.
Then the LORD came down in the cloud, and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him, and placed the same upon the seventy elders; and it happened, when the Spirit rested upon them, that they prophesied, although they never did so again.

But two men had remained in the camp: the name of one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad. And the Spirit rested upon them. Now they were among those listed, but who had not gone out to the tabernacle; yet they prophesied in the camp.

And a young man ran and told Moses, and said, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.”

So Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, one of his choice men, answered and said, “Moses my lord, forbid them!”

Then Moses said to him, “Are you zealous for my sake? Oh, that all the LORD’s people were prophets and that the LORD would put His Spirit upon them!”

THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS (#2)

Priest: Wisdom!
Reader: The Reading is from The Book of Joel.
Priest: Let us Attend!

Be glad then, you children of Zion, And rejoice in the Lord your God; For He has given you the former rain faithfully, And He will cause the rain to come down for you – The former rain, And the latter rain in the first month. The threshing floors shall be full of wheat, And the vats shall overflow with new wine and oil.

So I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, The crawling locust, The consuming locust, And the chewing locust, My great army which I sent among you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, And praise the name of the Lord your God, Who has dealt wondrously with you; And My people shall never be put to shame. Then you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel: I am the Lord your God And there is no other. My people shall never be put to shame. And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, And praise the name of the Lord your God, Who has dealt wondrously with you; And My people shall never be put to shame.

Then you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel: I am the Lord your God And there is no other. My people shall never be put to shame. Then you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel: I am the Lord your God And there is no other. My people shall never be put to shame.” And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions.
And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

“And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke.

The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord.

And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the Lord Shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, As the Lord has said, Among the remnant whom the Lord calls.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS (#3)

Priest: Wisdom!
Reader: The Reading is from The Prophecy of Ezekiel.
Priest: Let us Attend!

“For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land.

“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

“I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

“Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.

THE LITANY OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION is not said in the absence of a Priest or Deacon. The reader continues:

READER: Lord have mercy (12x)

Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

CHOIR: Amen.
READER: Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.
Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name for ever. Amen.
Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee.
Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes.
Blessed art Thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy commandments.
Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy precepts.
Thy mercy endures forever, O Lord! Do not despise the works of Thy hands!
To Thee belongs worship, to Thee belongs praise, to Thee belongs glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

**THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION is not said**
in the absence of a Priest or Deacon. The reader continues:

READER: Lord have mercy (12x)

Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

CHOIR: Amen.

**Followed by the Aposticha.**

**Aposticha**

The nations did not know the power of the Holy Spirit, which came upon Your Apostles, O Lord, so they mistook the foreign tongues for drunkenness. But we are strengthened by the Apostles, so we ceaselessly pray to You, O good God Who love mankind: // “Do not take Your Holy Spirit from us!”

v: *Create in me a clean heart, O Lord, and renew a right Spirit within me!*

The coming of the Holy Spirit filled Your Apostles, O Lord, and made them speak in foreign tongues. To the faithless this wonder was but drunkenness, but to the faithful it brings salvation.
We pray to you, O good God Who love mankind: // “Make us worthy of such enlightenment!”

v: Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit

O heavenly King, The Comforter, The Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present, fillest all things; Treasury of blessings and Giver of life, come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, // and save our souls, O Good One!
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 8

The arrogance of building the tower in the days of old led to the confusion of tongues. Now the glory of the knowledge of God brings them wisdom. There God condemned the impious for their transgression. Here Christ has enlightened the fishermen by the Spirit. There disharmony was brought about for punishment.// Now harmony is renewed for the salvation of our souls.

After which is sung The Prayer of St. Simeon: ‘Lord, now lettest...’

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

READER: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3 times)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
O most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy Name’s sake.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

READER: Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

CHOIR: Amen.

TROPAR FOR THE FEAST OF HOLY PENTECOST, TONE 8 (3X)

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God; Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net./
O lover of man, Glory to Thee!
READER: More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond than the Seraphim, without defilement, You gave birth to God the Word, True Theotokos, we magnify You.

CHOIR: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy. Lord, Bless!

READER: May He Who sent down from heaven the Most Holy Spirit in the form of fiery tongues upon His holy disciples and apostles. Christ our True God, through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, through the Prayers of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, by the Power of the Precious and Life-Creating Cross, through the protection of the Bodiless Powers of Heaven, through the prayers of Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John, through the prayers of the holy glorious and all-laudable Apostles, through the Prayers of all the North American Saints, through the prayers of ____________ the patron of this Holy Temple, through the prayers of The Venerable Daniel of Sketis and Hieromartyr Theodotus, Bishop of Ancyra whom we commemorate today, of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, have mercy on us and save us.

CHOIR: Amen.

(The faithful now come up and venerate the Precious Cross and Icons in our Icon Corner.)

READER: Through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us!

CHOIR: Amen. Lord have mercy! Lord have mercy! Lord have mercy!